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CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1120 N STREET, MS-52
P. O. BOX 942873
SACRAMENTO, 94273-0001
FAX (916) 653-2134
(916) 654-4245
<http://www.catc.ca.gov>

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Contact: Annette Gilbertson, 916.654.4245

SACRAMENTO — The California Transportation Commission (Commission) adjourned its June 11, 2009 meeting in memory of Commissioner R. Kirk Lindsey who passed away on June 10, 2009.

"The Commissioners and staff extend our sincere condolences to Commissioner Lindsey's family," said Commission Executive Director Bimla Rhinehart. "He was highly regarded by his fellow Commissioners for his dedication and advocacy for the transportation community. He was one of those rare individuals that could stand toe to toe with the biggest players in business and politics but was always first and foremost a man who loved his family, served his community and honored his faith. He will be remembered for his counsel, compassion and great sense of humor. We are all eternally grateful for his commitment and dedicated service to the Commission and our state."

"California has lost a champion for transportation, and we at Caltrans have lost a true friend. Our hearts go out to Kirk's family in this time of sorrow," said Caltrans Director Will Kempton.

As the representative on the Commission's Rural Counties Task Force, "Commissioner Lindsey brought a keen understanding of the transportation challenges facing rural areas of California. His advocacy on behalf of the 26 rural transportation planning agencies was key to funding several successful rural projects, such as the Sutter Creek Bypass in Amador County and the Missouri Flat Interchange in El Dorado County," said Chair of the Rural Counties Task Force Kathryn Mathews.

Mr. Lindsey was first appointed to the Commission in 2000 by Governor Gray Davis, and reappointed to his position as Commissioner by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004 and 2008.

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